

INSIDE

SAN JOSE

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Getting Green Vision

Conservation Meets Common Sense

No doubt you've heard the term 'San José's Green Vision' bandied about in past few months. Well, it's now become a common phrase in cities around the world; municipalities and government agencies are all looking at 'San José's Green Vision' as an environmental and economic model for the future. So, just what is San José's Green Vision?

Once again San José has taken on the challenge of changing the world, this time with the Green Vision. The concept is bold, ambitious and yes, a little bit scary. But you're talking about the folks who ushered in the Information Age. This whole save-the-earth thing should be a snap. The City of San José, in conjunction with the high-tech industry, community partners and residents will prove that you can 'go green without going broke.'

The ultimate goal is to

- Create thousands of new jobs
- Grow city revenues
- Expand the local economy
- Prove that using clean and green technology is fiscally responsible

The City is committed to reducing San José's carbon footprint by more than half within 15 years.

To whittle all that down into manageable pieces the San José's Mayor and Council voted to adopt ten Green Vision Goals.

The City of San José's Green Vision isn't limited to measuring environmental improvements and reducing dependence on foreign

fossil fuels but stresses economic development, full community and business involvement. The word sustainable is used to describe the entire program, from increasing the use of alternative fuel vehicles in City fleets to developing full job and career fields in Green industries. Unlike most environmental efforts, the Green Vision relies on a government agency working in concert with residents and businesses to change, not only behaviors, but the economy. It starts at home; the City is reevaluating how we do business, how we provide service, and what the full impact is on our corner of the world. We'll look at everything through, 'green eyes.' Using that same model within the community, we are challenging residents and business to find greener ways of doing things and providing them with information on how to do it. For more information on San José's Green Vision, contact Collin O'Mara at collin.omara@sanjoseca.gov.

Green Vision GOALS

1. Create 25,000 Clean Tech jobs as the World Center of Clean Tech Innovation
2. Reduce per capita energy use by 50 percent
3. Receive 100 percent of our electrical power from clean renewable sources
4. Build or retrofit 50 million square feet of green buildings
5. Divert 100 percent of the waste from our landfill and convert waste to energy
6. Recycle or beneficially reuse 100 percent of our wastewater (100 million gallons per day)
7. Adopt a General Plan with measurable standards for sustainable development
8. Ensure that 100 percent of public fleet vehicles run on alternative fuels
9. Plant 100,000 new trees and replace 100 percent of our streetlights with smart, zero-emission lighting
10. Create 100 miles of interconnected trails

Information on how San José is helping make the city Green!

INSIDE
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ISSUE

The Mission of the City of San José is to provide quality public services, facilities and opportunities that create, sustain and enhance a safe, livable and vibrant community for its diverse residents, businesses and visitors.

How Green is Our Valley?

Solar Innovators Gear up Production Lines in Silicon Valley

For a while there, when it came to manufacturing, the name Silicon Valley became synonymous with Too Expensive. Manufacturing was something best described using the words off and shore. Basically, we were all brains, no brawn. Well, that's all changed. There's an entirely new kind of manufacturing in town—solar cells. More and more solar companies are choosing to build manufacturing plants in Silicon Valley. At this time, five companies are developing facilities in Santa Clara and San José to produce solar cells. As per Valley trail-blazing tradition, this isn't your mother's solar technology. The new solar cells are produced from copper indium gallium selenide (CIGS) instead of the traditional silicon. Manufacturing the new CIGS cells requires sophisticated equipment but it's also highly automated, making it a fiscal bargain to manufacture here in Silicon Valley.

Why would a new industry flock to a place that is considered cost-prohibitive? According to the Silicon Valley Business Journal, they love us for our minds—and our money. A few of the basic reasons are; Silicon Valley's supply of skilled, innovative workers willing try something new; the best technical minds in the country are roaming about freely; local governments that not only understand tech company needs but anticipate them; and the fact that we also happen to be the Capital of Venture Capitalism doesn't hurt either.

Less is So Much More

City Joins EPA's Low Carbon IT Campaign

The City became a partner in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR program; pledging to reduce the carbon footprint of its IT operations by purchasing ENERGY STAR-approved equipment and using the computers' power management features to reduce power consumption. The project will include an estimated 6,000 computers and monitors across City departments. The anticipated result is over \$200,000 a year in energy savings with an annual reduction of approximately 250 tons of carbon dioxide. Never has so much less given us so much more.

Shining a New Light on the Valley

Photovoltaic Industry Settles Into Silicon

With the addition of Stion Corporation to San José's technology cluster, Silicon Valley is now officially the home of the photovoltaics industry. Stion Corporation (formerly NStructures) is a solar photovoltaics company developing high-efficiency thin-film modules. The Company is aiming to minimize the total installed system costs of solar electricity.

Photovoltaics, or PV for short, is a technology that converts light directly into electricity. Photovoltaic technology makes use of the abundant energy in the sun, and it has little impact on our environment. Photovoltaics can be used in a wide range of products, from small consumer items to large commercial solar electric systems.

Due to the growing need for solar energy, the manufacturing of solar cells and solar photovoltaic array has expanded dramatically in recent years. Photovoltaic production has been doubling every two years, increasing by an average of 48 percent each year since 2002, making it the world's fastest-growing energy technology. Photovoltaics is also the field of study relating to this technology and there are many research institutes devoted to work on photovoltaics.

Stion Corp CEO Chet Farris spoke at a recent City of San José Council Meeting about the industry's move to San José.

"The photovoltaic or PV industry is a very exciting place to be. I could tell you ten years ago it was a lot less fun. Today with rising energy prices environmental concerns and the need for energy independence the PV industry is exploding. I spent much of my life in the semiconductor industry. Before the Fairchild and Applied and Intels, the industry in its early days was very much the same, dominated by the Arcos, the Siemens, T.I., Boeing and Martin Marietta. The fledgling cell industry predominantly here in San José has grown to over a \$300 billion industry worldwide.

So what does that mean for PV? The industries look a lot alike. Today electricity represents about 30% of the global energy consumption of the world. There are over 17,000 Terawatts, which is 17 thousand, thousand billion watt hours of electricity sold annually at a cost of around \$2 trillion.

Why we would want to be part of San José? Infrastructure, affordable housing, transportation, the ability to grow and recruit talented scientists, engineers, so forth. But more importantly, is it a friendly community? Do we have a trained workforce available? Is the city interested in working with us? And after several months of reviewing over 100 sites throughout the Bay Area, we decided San José was the place to us."

The City of San José welcomes the PV industry to the Valley, make yourself at home.

Smart Growth Factors in Climate Concerns

Training Sessions Link Smart Growth Planning to Global Climate Change

The City teamed with the State Department of Water Resources to conduct sessions to explore the link between smart growth land use planning & water quality and global climate change. The sessions were attended by representatives from the Regional Water Board, Association of Bay Area Governments, and State Coastal Conservancy. Help for Heavy Metal: One of the first smart

growth sessions was designed for metal finishing companies. The metal finishing process often produces undesirable byproducts or wastes including air emissions, wastewater, and hazardous and solid wastes. The session focused on regulations and pollution prevention techniques. For more information on the smart growth land use planning & water quality contact (408) 945-3000.

Well At Least Mike Wallace Didn't Show Up

Ok, if you're going to be an inadvertent extra on a primetime news show it might as well be 60 Minutes. That's what happened to travelers at the Norman Mineta San José Airport (SJC) on Tuesday, March 4. The venerable news program was filming a segment on former Vice President Al Gore and his plans for the future as passengers and staff made their way through the Airport. The CBS crew taped Gore as he checked in, went through TSA security screening, and boarded a Southwest Airlines flight as part of a "day in the life" feature. It is noteworthy that Gore was dropped off at the curb in a Prius, carried his own bags, and took his belt off at security like every other passenger. BTW, the Nobel One takes off his shoes one foot at a time just like the rest of us.

A New Star in the Solar Cluster

Stion to Relocate to South San José's Industrial Park

San José welcomes Stion Corporation, the third star to join our solar cluster in the Edenvale industrial area of South San José. Stion will occupy a facility at 6321 San Ignacio Avenue, formerly owned and occupied by IBM. The facility will house both Stion's corporate headquarters as well as its initial production capabilities. To sweeten the deal, the San Jose Redevelopment Agency (SJRA) is providing \$700,000 to Stion for the purchase of manufacturing equipment and the City of San José is working with the company to secure State Employment Training Panel Funds to support their workforce training needs. Founded in June 2006, Stion develops higher efficiency thin-film modules using proprietary materials. Its goal is to minimize the total installed cost of solar electricity by reducing panel and other related system costs.

The Edenvale Redevelopment Project Area is a magnet for emerging technology companies. These new industries are lured by the Redevelopment Agency's Edenvale Emerging Technologies Fund program and captured by the availability of an innovative and brainy workforce.

Stion joins solar companies Nanosolar and SoloPower. Other companies located in the Edenvale Technology Park include GE, Hitachi and Northrop Grumman. To learn more about Stion, visit <http://www.stion.com>.

SoloPower, Inc. the 2nd Star in our solar constellation; occupies a 109,000 square foot facility at 5981 Optical Court. According to SoloPower's CEO, Homayoun Talieh, the decision to locate the company's manufacturing facility in San José rested on two important factors: access to a skilled workforce and a partnership with a business-friendly city.

"In San José, we're fortunate to find ourselves at the epicenter of technology innovation which offers a pipeline to some of the brightest technology brains in the world. We're pleased to be bringing jobs to the city and we greatly appreciate the support of the Mayor and his administration as we ramp up our manufacturing," said Talieh.

Founded in November 2005, SoloPower is a leader in solar power innovation, is also working towards drastically increasing the affordability of solar panels in Europe and the U.S. Its mission includes the mass production of low cost, high efficiency Photo-Voltaic modules, fundamentally changing the cost efficiency and volume availability of solar electricity.

For more information on the Solar Technology Industry in San José contact Steven Brewster at steven.brewster@sanjoseca.gov and for information on Edenvale Technology Park contact Helen de Runa at helen.deruna@sanjoseca.gov.

Edible Tableware?

School District to Pilot Zero Waste Programs



Where can you get a 100% compostable *spork when you need one? The City, in partnership San José's Union School District, will launch the Going Green Zero Waste Pilot Program during the 2008-09 academic year at eight elementary and middle schools as well as

District administrative offices. Through this Green Vision pilot program, the City's Environmental

Services Department (ESD) will provide the Union School District with 100% compostable plates, cups and "sporks" (*spork: spoon and fork combination), pick up lunch waste and divert the waste to a commercial composting facility. While this new table isn't edible it is environmentally friendly and a money-saver. The Going Green Zero Waste program, combined with paper and bottle/can recycling, is expected to reduce the school district's waste stream by an estimated 70 percent as well as potentially reducing hauling costs. Incidentally, no sporks were harmed in the printing of this article.

We're Burning Daylight and It's a Good Thing

San José named one of 12 Solar America Cities

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced the selection of San José, CA as a Solar America City. San José, along with 11 other cities across the country, was chosen for its commitment and comprehensive approach to the deployment of solar technologies and the development of sustainable solar infrastructures. DOE will invest up to \$2.4 million in projects aimed at making electricity from solar photovoltaics (PV) cost-competitive with conventional electricity by 2015. Combined with industry cost share and funding from each city, total investment in all twelve cities is estimated at \$12.1 million. This comes to approximately \$200,000 for the City of San José to integrate a variety of solar energy technologies throughout the city. The Solar America Cities jumpstart the integration of solar power and encourage other cities to follow suit. The idea, according to DOE Secretary Samuel W. Bodman, the Energy Department is working aggressively to make clean, abundant and affordable solar energy the norm, and no longer an 'alternative' source of energy.

For San José, it confirms our history of innovation, environmental stewardship and as one of the world's centers in clean, green technologies. The City also aims to help our innovators create new businesses

and new jobs, as well as, use these technologies to reduce the City's own operating and maintenance costs.

San José already is a leader in solar technology innovation, with leading corporations such as SunPower, SoloPower, Nanosolar, Fat Spaniel, and others headquartered here. Other cities designated as Solar America Cities include: Houston, TX; Knoxville, TN; Milwaukee, WI; Minneapolis & St. Paul, MN; Orlando, FL; Philadelphia, PA; Sacramento, CA; San Antonio, TX; San José, CA; Santa Rosa, CA; and Seattle, WA.

In addition to investing a total of up to \$2.4 million (Fiscal Year 2008), DOE will also provide hands-on assistance from technical experts to help cities integrate solar technologies into energy planning, zoning and facilities; streamline local regulations and practices that affect solar adoption by residents and businesses; present solar financing options; and promote solar technology among residents and local businesses through outreach, curriculum development, and incentive programs. For more information on DOE's Solar America Cities Program, visit: www.SolarAmericaCities.energy.gov.

From Silicon Valley to Solar Valley?

While the news of this new industry finding a home in the Valley is exciting, San José isn't putting all of its eggs in one solar basket. The City is spreading its Green Vision to encompass a number of growth industries including alternative fuels and green building design/redesign/retrofit. We won't stop there; the bottom line is San José is willing to make the Valley the easiest place in the world to give birth to a new industry.

Leader of the Pact

San José receives Green California Leadership Award

California has always had a commitment to the environment; a pact with its citizens and business to protect the environment as much as possible. Recently, the City of San José was recognized for our leadership in the effort with a "Green California Leadership" award for our Environmentally Preferable Procurement Program at the Green California Summit & Exposition in Sacramento. The summit and awards are sponsored by Green Technology, a non-profit initiative to help inform government sustainability efforts. San José was

selected from over 80 organizations that applied for awards in eight different categories. To reduce the environmental impact of City operations, San José has incorporated environmental consideration in all aspects of its procurement process, and has had success in "greening" its janitorial services, computer and cell phone purchases, and vehicle fleet, among other purchases. For additional information, contact Walter Rossman at 535-7051.

Cleaner, Healthier, Greener

San Jose Redevelopment Agency Promotes Growing and Building “Green”

Cleaner, healthier, and greener, these are the words that the San Jose Redevelopment Agency is guided by as it works to improve and revitalize San José. From building “green” structures to providing opportunities to environmentally conscious organizations, to investing in building green programs or technology, and to promoting urban infill projects, the Agency is implementing programs and projects that are positively impacting the environment and offer the most significant benefits to the community.

Why does ‘green’ make sense? Redevelopment and green design both share a common definition—Redevelopment is about reusing existing development and green design is about recycling and reusing existing resources. The Agency focuses on environmentally sustainable programs and projects will better support San José’s economy and our community’s quality of life.

The City of San José and the San Jose Redevelopment Agency are both actively involved in encouraging new developments to incorporate green design.

In 2007 the San José City Council unanimously approved the policy that all municipal buildings in San Jose over 10,000 square feet must meet LEED Silver certification as set by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

Since then, the Agency has completed the Starbird Youth Center, which was designed and built to meet LEED-certified standards. It is also planning other “green” projects including building or improving three public facilities-- the Edenvale Community Center, the expansion of the McEnery Convention Center and the installation of an energy-efficient roof system for Parkside Hall. Even before there was an official policy, the Agency was already conscious of green design. It built the award-winning Alum Rock Youth Center and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, which were designed to meet LEED standards in reducing electricity use and conserving natural resources by maximizing daylight and airflow, while the Youth Center makes use of natural ventilation to cool the facility.

U.S. Green Building Council Branches Out

New Chapter to open in Silicon Valley

Silicon Valley will be getting its own branch of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) in May.

For our burgeoning clean tech industry and the growing number of companies in the area trying to break into the rapidly growing green-building market, this will offer access to more events, input on relevant policy discussions and better networking opportunities. It becomes the third branch of the San Francisco-based chapter, joining Monterey and Sacramento.

U.S. Green Building Council expects this new branch to draw 50 to 100 members a month, including people working in renewable energy, high tech, municipal government, engineering and building materials. Members join regional chapters and can attend events at any branch. The branch will hold

monthly events focused on training, education, networking and public policy; interest in green building is causing chapter events to sell out within hours. Launching of the new branch is planned for May 13 at Adobe Systems Inc.

The U.S. Green Building Council, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is a community of leaders working to make green buildings accessible to everyone within a generation. Nationally, the USGBC membership has grown a tenfold since 2000 and Green-building construction starts are projected to exceed \$12 billion in 2008 and \$60 billion by 2010, according to McGraw-Hill Construction Analytics. For more information on USGBC visit www.usgbc.org or call 1-800-795-1747. We welcome the U.S. Green Building Council to the Valley; we’ve got room for you to grow.

She May be Pushing 40 but She Still has Star Power

The Retirement Services building, at 1737 North First Street, earned the prestigious ENERGY STAR rating. Buildings that rate in the top 25 percent of energy-efficient buildings in the nation may qualify for the ENERGY STAR. Built in 1971, it's rare that an older building can meet those standards. Not that we're saying 37 is old, isn't it the new 20? The building is owned by the San José Police & Fire Department Retirement Plan, and houses the City of San José Retirement Services Department, as well as commercial tenants. ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy to save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices.

This Green Business Is Making Headlines

Coverage of "Green" Issues Rises Dramatically in 2007, Reynolds Study Finds

Green has gone beyond good stewardship, it's now good business. According to a study by the Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism the number of "green" business stories published in the nation's 10 largest newspapers in 2007 more than doubled 2006 totals. The study found that a significant shift is underway in coverage priorities. Examination of content determined that 81 of 154 business stories on environmental sustainability appearing since 2000 have been published during 2007.

Business editors say they carry a story with a "green angle" as often as once a week and none felt that reader interest has peaked. A survey of editors revealed that though few have dedicated a reporter solely to green coverage, the subject has been added to some existing beats. These only reflect only a fraction of the green stories found throughout the newspaper, the study found. For the complete report visit http://www.businessjournalism.org/bizjournalism/ReynoldsCenter_GreenReport.pdf or contact Andrew Leckey, Director of Donald W. Reynolds National Center for Business Journalism, (480) 276-3654.

San José's OTA (Oak Tree Account) Thriving

City Establishes a Tree Bank for Local Native Oaks

In an effort to promote regeneration of local native oak trees, acorns were collected from existing trees at Watson Park in the fall of 2007. Over 900 acorns have germinated and have been shipped to a native plant nursery to be grown into saplings. The goal is to develop a tree bank of up to 750 oak trees for planting at Watson Park and other public sites located within the same watershed. The oaks, which will be ready for planting in Spring, 2009, are native trees collected locally. The saplings are suitable for mitigation projects and make excellent Arbor Day projects. For more information contact Marybeth Carter, (408)793-4183.



Economy Won't Get In the Way of Energy Efficiency

Green Vision Pilot Program to Offer Free Energy Efficiency Services to Low Income Households

As part of the Green Vision program, the City is working with PG&E's Low Income Energy Efficiency (LIEE) program to provide low income homes in six SNI areas with free energy efficiency services from PG&E. The services, which include efficiency audits and retrofits, will be augmented by a comprehensive educational campaign aimed at the whole community. The pilot program's goal is to assist San José's low income households improve energy efficiency. The community educational campaign will increase awareness of environmental sustainability and energy efficiency among San José's diverse populations. The pilot program will run 2009-2011; an environmental fair is being planned for summer 2008 when the first 2 - 4 energy efficiency retrofits will be completed. For more information on the Energy Efficiency Pilot Program contact (408) 535-8550.

Green from the Ground Up

Mineta San José Airport Recognized for Successful Clean Air Vehicle Results



Mineta San José International Airport (SJC) received the National Natural Gas Vehicle Achievement Award in recognition of its successful efforts that have significantly improved air quality and reduced fuel costs of its ground transportation operations. Since 2003, the Airport has been able to eliminate the use of more 1.1 million gallons of diesel fuel through its conversion of its shuttle bus fleet to compressed natural gas (CNG). This has resulted in a fuel cost savings of over \$2.6 million dollars since 2003, as well as reducing vehicle exhaust emissions by over 70 tons annually.

The state-of-the-art compressed natural gas station opened in August 2003. San José is one of only a few airports in the nation that owns its own CNG fueling station, which benefits both its ground transportation operations and the public. SJC can take greater advantage of incentives, grants and programs that pass cost-savings on to taxis, other fleets, and privately-owned vehicles. In 2002, the Airport received \$700,000 from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to replace twenty diesel shuttle buses with CNG-fueled shuttles. The Airport will complete the conversion of the remaining 16 shuttle bus fleet to CNG this spring.

In addition, the Airport has encouraged the conversion of taxis to CNG by permitting CNG taxis to operate every day at the airport instead of alternate days that gasoline-fueled taxis are allowed. The CNG taxis now account for more than 40 percent of all taxi trips from the Airport.

SJC launched its Alternative Fuel Grant Program in 2006 to support the CNG conversion of more vehicles working at the Airport. The program will provide conversion grants of \$4,000 per taxi and \$8,000 for door-to-door shuttles permitted to operate at the Airport. The Airport increased its commitment to cleaner air in February by arranging up to \$1.3 million in new funding for two projects that will enhance the CNG fueling station and provide more incentives to assist taxi and van owners to convert vehicles to CNG.

The new upgrade to the airport's CNG fueling station will increase its capacity, efficiency, reliability, and accessibility both for the airport's fleets and the general public. Completion of this project is expected by the end of 2008 and is estimated to cost \$727,000. Over the next two years SJC will offer larger incentive grants of \$4,000 per taxi and \$8,000 per shuttle van to fleet owners that are permitted to operate at the airport. The program is estimated to cost \$555,000, with up to \$400,000 coming from vehicle operators.

SJC's partners for its successful alternative fuel program include Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Silicon Valley Clean Cities Coalition, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, California Energy Commission, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, NGV America, and Alternative Fuel Vehicle Institute.

How Far Can We ★Reach?

Green Vision Goal 10: Create 100 Miles of Interconnected Trails



The City's network of trails continues to develop with several projects recently completed and many in the works. The network is now 46.33 miles in length and comprised of 23 unique trail systems. Goal 10 of the City's Green Vision goal is to fully develop these and 10 other systems, resulting in a 100-mile interconnected trail network to support recreation and commuting.

In December, paved under-crossings at Airport Parkway and Highway 101 were completed. The newly paved surfaces allow continuous access along the 9 miles of paved and unpaved trails along the Guadalupe River; linking downtown San José to the Bay. As trail-users travel through this area, they can enjoy views of the river as well as the new airport terminal under construction.

A much smaller scale project has recently been completed along the Penitencia Creek Trail alignment. The at-grade crossing at Penitencia Creek Road and Viceroy Drive was upgraded with a number of pedestrian safety improvements; including striped crosswalks, wheelchair ramps, 300 feet of sidewalk, and a flashing beacon to notify drivers of trail-users. With completion of this relatively small project, trail users can more easily enjoy the existing 2-1/2 mile trail system which is near Alum Rock Park and its many trails.

Work along the Los Gatos Creek continues. A private developer has constructed trail improvements

from Auzerais Avenue northward to San Carlos Street; this work extends the recently completed reach between Lonus Street and Auzerais Avenue. Once this trail is open to the public it will provide a landscaped system following the creek, offering interpretive signage about the former Del Monte Cannery, and getting us closer to downtown and the Guadalupe River Park. The City is currently preparing a master plan to define an under-crossing at San Carlos Street and the remainder of the trail system as it meets the Guadalupe River. Construction of this final reach of the trail system is still several years away.

The City's investment in the trail system is not only a welcome addition to San José's outdoor life but an investment in the environment. The last trail count found that nearly 40% of trail users were bicycling to work along the Guadalupe River.

As our trail system grows so does our trails website, www.sjparks.org/trails; the Trail Program website continues to be the best resource for detailed maps and photos to help you plan your next trail adventure. Avid trail-users can check the website for closure notifications and community meeting announcements. The latest addition to the website is the "Trail in the News" link, containing media stories about the network. Use the trails and watch the website to see 'how far we can reach.'

★Reach: noun—a continuous stretch or extent of trail.

Planting the Seeds of Stewardship

28 Area Schools Receive Go Green Mini-Grants

The City's Go Green Schools Program awarded annual mini-grants this week to 28 San José schools to help foster environmental stewardship. Awards ranged from \$500 to \$2,700, and help fund on-campus recycling, gardens and composting as well as field trips and teacher training.

Nine Schools/Nonprofits Receive Youth Watershed Education Grants

The City's Youth Watershed Education Program awarded annual grants to eight San José schools and one nonprofit group. The awards, which support watershed stewardship among youth, ranged from \$900 to \$5,000, and help fund field trips, teacher training and hands-on learning activities that promote environmental education.

Book Now, Avoid the Rush!

*Spring Tours at Water
Pollution Control
Plant Proving Popular*

Looking for a little weekend family fun? Spring tours of the San José/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant (the Plant), which began March 1, already proving popular and filling up fast. The tours are a kickoff to the Plant Master Plan Process and they also offer the opportunity to discuss area infrastructure needs and the City's Green Vision. The two-hour Plant tours are offered in the morning and afternoon on the first and third Saturdays during March, April and May. If you are an interested 'tourist' you may register by visiting www.sanjoseca.gov/esdor or calling the Environmental Services Department at (408) 975-2551.

Oh Give Me Room, Lot's of Room...

Country's Largest Green Conference Expands to San José

In a bid to s-t-r-e-t-c-h out West Coast Green, the largest green building conference in the United States, will stage its 2008 event in San José this September. Though last year's conference drew 12,000 attendees to San Francisco, the move to San José is expected to accommodate up to 500 vendors on the exhibit floor versus 260 last year and many more visitors.

What's West Coast Green like? Think Woodstock without the music, the mud, and with a lot more business cards. For building/design professionals the conference will provide:

- Total Exposure in a Good Way: the opportunity to reach the entire chain of green building decision-makers not accessible by other green building events.
- Beyond the Basics: Advanced trainings for those of you who've already passed Green Building 101 and are ready for the next level!
- If Networking has a Heaven, This is It: Find your next business partner, meet a 'funder,' and talk to someone that completely changes your perspective on insulation; all under one roof.
- Get an Eco Step Ahead: advanced market knowledge and sneak previewing state-of-the-art technologies.
- A Little More Expertise Couldn't Hurt: get more information about how to do what you do and how to do it better.
- Jump Start for the Brain without the Cables: Open your mind and ignite your imagination by hearing the latest angles and innovations at the ever-expanding frontiers of the industry.
- 'Back to Your Roots' Experience: Remember what inspired you to go green in the first place and the excitement and passion you felt for the cause.

For the educated homeowner West Coast Green provides a special Homeowner Day giving property-owners access to the full tradeshow and offering special presentations geared to your concerns. Find all the information, products, suppliers, and implementers you need to make your green architectural and remodeling dreams a reality.

That includes:

- FAQ's for the Homeowners' Soul: Answers to every question on your list and to many you never knew you had.
- Kick the Metaphorical Tires: Opportunities to meet the vendors, touch and compare products, and learn all about what goes into creating your new recycled countertop.
- Learn to Speak Contractor: Educate yourself so you can specify your own materials and come up with the best solutions together with your contractor.
- The Legal Kind of Insider Trading: If you're the one slinging the hammer, you'll get all the hot tips you need to save money and build it right.

The show is also expected to engage the private sector in at least seven of the City's 10 GreenVision goals and promote attention implementation. For details, visit www.westcoastgreen.com.

When Comes to Affordable Housing, We're in the LEED

Gish Project Awarded LEED for Homes Gold Certification

Gish Apartments at 1410 N. 1st St. is the first multifamily housing development in the State of California to earn LEED for Homes Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. Gish, a 35-unit affordable housing development for families and special needs households, was completed in 2007 by First Community Housing. The development is located along the 1st Street light rail line and features a density of more than 80 units per acre and provides free annual EcoPasses to residents for use of the light rail and bus system. Other green building features include: location on a remediated Brownfield site; small unit sizes; advanced framing techniques; reduction of construction waste by more than 75%; locally-sourced materials; water-efficient toilets, showers, faucets and irrigation; energy-efficient lighting, appliances and windows; a rooftop photovoltaic system; low- or no-VOC adhesives, paints and

sealants to preserve healthy indoor air quality for building occupants; and green building education for the building's residents and maintenance staff. For more information on Gish Apartments contact www.gishapartments.org or call the Housing Hotline at (408) 291-8650.



Just to Get the PARTY STARTED!

We Are the Champions!

EPEAT Hands Out Green Electronics Champion Awards

The City of San José received the Green Electronics Champion Awards for using the Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) green purchasing standard to buy desktop computers, laptops and monitors.

San José was the first city in the country to specify EPEAT-registered computers and added EPEAT requirements into its computer contract four months before the first products appeared on the EPEAT registry. With help from the EPA and the

Green Electronics Council, the team incorporated EPEAT requirements into a purchasing contract for computers, and has since bought more than 2,000 EPEAT-registered desktop computers and monitors. Through its purchases, the city reduced energy use by 803,000 kWh — the electricity needed to power 75 U.S. average households per year, reduced greenhouse gases equivalent to removing 53 cars from the road per year, reduced hazardous waste by 5.36 tons, avoided 168 pounds of toxic materials and saved \$73,957.

The Beginning of a Beautiful

Relationship

City Becomes EPA ENERGY STAR

Partner

The City of San José has enthusiastically joined the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR partnership. Benefits will include enhancing financial health, and helping preserve the environment for future generations. San José will also participate in a national call-to-action to improve the energy efficiency of America's commercial and industrial buildings by 10 percent or more. ENERGY STAR provides the resources and tools to measure, track and improve the energy performance of our organization; an important component achieving the City's Green Vision goals.

April 22, 2008 Earth Day at City Hall

**CELEBRATE EARTH DAY AT CITY HALL AND LEARN HOW
TO "GREEN" YOUR LIFESTYLE OR YOUR BUSINESS. JOIN
US FOR THIS FREE LUNCH-TIME EVENT.**

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

San José City Hall Plaza.

Preview the 2008 San Jose Downtown Farmers' Market

Enjoy live entertainment and food

Take the 2008 Environmental Pledge

View the peregrine falcons nesting atop City Hall

Join the Mayor's Earth Day Bike Ride

Live entertainment.....10:15 a.m.-2 p.m.

Earth Day Bike Ride with Mayor Chuck Reed ...11:30 a.m.

Downtown Walking Tour.....12:30 p.m.

Speaking Program12:45 p.m.

Adobe Green Building Tour1:30 p.m.

Entertainment

- Nguyen Dance Company
- Movimiento Cosmico: Aztec Dancers
- Lincoln High School Mariachi Band
- The Mumlers
- Celtic Soul

Farmer's Market:

Locally grown fruits and vegetables, organic cheeses, soy products, natural soaps, jewelry, native plants, and more.

Marketplace of Environmental Ideas:

Find tips on how you can go green and how the City can help. Find out more about San Jose's Green Vision, recycling, composting, alternative transportation, water conservation, watershed protection, energy efficiency, and green building.

- Friends of Guadalupe River Park & Gardens
- Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group
- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)
- California Waste Solutions
- Green Waste Recovery
- Green Team of San Jose
- Garden City Sanitation, Inc.
- Downtown San Jose Farmers' Market
- Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association
- City of San José
- Sustainable Silicon Valley
- San José Downtown Association
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- PG&E
- South Bay Water Recycling
- San José Public Art
- Our City Forest

Be Earth-friendly. Bring your own bag. Bring your own water bottle.

www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/earthday2008.asp

*Sign up to ride with the Mayor: (408) 535-4800,
www.sanjoseca.gov/mayor.*

